

REMARKS

In the last Action, restriction was required among Group I, claims 1-6 drawn to a production sales control system, Group II, claim 7 drawn to a method of production sales control and Group III, claim 8 drawn to a method for using a computer [to] facilitate a transaction between a buyer and a seller. The Examiner stated that the three inventions are patentably distinct from each other, thereby making restriction proper. Applicants were required to elect one of the three inventions for further prosecution in this application.

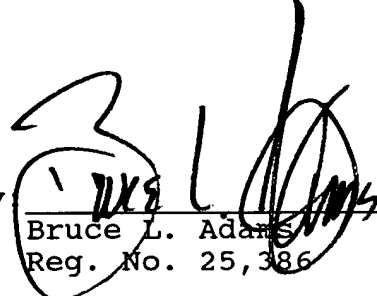
In response to the restriction requirement, applicants have provisionally elected the invention of Group I drawn to a production sales control system and submit that claims 1-6 are readable on the elected invention. The non-elected claims have been retained in the application pending possible withdrawal of the restriction requirement or applicants' decision to pursue the subject matter thereof in a continuing application.

In light of the foregoing, early and favorable
action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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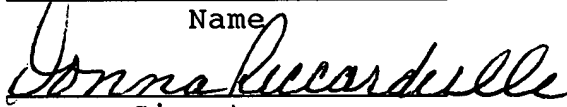
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May 6, 2004

Date